

# WEEK'S NEWS FROM NEIGHBORING CITIES

## BRIEF OUTLINE OF CURRENT EVENTS ON THE PACIFIC SLOPE

Condensed Resume of the Week's Happenings Covering Events of Interest From Nearby Places—Will Allow Rapid Scanning

### Falls 3500 Feet

FRESNO, Dec. 30.—Lincoln Beachy dropped with his aeroplane 3500 feet, then righted the machine and made a safe landing. Other feats the airman performed include aerial loop-the-loops and upside down flying.

### Only Citizens Get Pay

BREMERTON, Wash., Dec. 30.—In compliance with recent orders of the navy department, every enlisted man in the navy and marine corps here must prove he is a citizen of the United States before he is allowed the additional pay received for re-enlistment.

### Loop-the-Loop Record Broken

FRESNO, Dec. 30.—Lincoln Beachy broke his own and the world's record for looping-the-loop by doing the complete turn in the air four times, following which he crossed the aviation field and drove over the crowd at the county fair grounds for an eighth of a mile.

Jerked Buffalo; Parcel Post Export SANTA MONICA, Dec. 30.—The first shipment of jerked buffalo meat ever sent through the parcel post was shipped from here.

Two weeks ago one of the buffalo owned by the motion picture company in the Santa Ynez canyon was killed by falling over a precipice and the carcass was given to the Indians.

They have since cured the meat, and this morning shipped it back to friends at the Rosebud agency, South Dakota.

### Two Billion Feet Timber

LOS ANGELES, Dec. 30.—The federal government sold 2,000,000,000 feet of standing timber during the last year to such advantage that all the western forest reserves are now self-supporting.

This information compiled by Henry S. Graves of the forestry department of the Department of the Interior, was given out by Supervisor R. H. Carlton of the Angelus Reserve.

The value of the timber on the stump is \$4,500,000.

### Any Stamp Good on Post Cards

LOS ANGELES, Dec. 30.—Special stamps for parcel post packages are no longer required.

It was found that supplies of special stamps could not keep up with the demand, so ordinary postage was permitted on packages.

This in turn drew heavily on the regular postage supplies and finally the government decided to return to regular postage and do away with special stamps entirely.

Any stamp is accepted at its face value on parcel post packages and the parcel post stamps may be used on letters.

### Sea Elephant is "Movie" Actor

SANTA BARBARA, Dec. 30.—Sea elephants, cavorting over the rock and about the beach of Guadalupe Island may now be seen in motion pictures. The United States government made it possible to exhibit these odd creatures in their native habitat.

After protracted consideration of the circumstances surrounding the expedition of a moving picture company into Mexican waters for the purpose of photographing these unusual monsters of the sea, the secretary of the treasury concluded to release the films, which were seized here several months ago for failure to declare them.

### Stop Pay of Women Jurors

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 30.—While Expert Accountant Hand asserts that the eleven women grand jurors of San Mateo county are making the best inquisitorial body this state ever had, Auditor Underhill of Redwood City is making every legal effort to block the payment of their fees.

The auditor asked District Attorney Swart for an opinion relative to the legality of the claims.

The women jurors say that Underhill is "peevish" because they instituted certain changes in his office which cost considerable money and energy.

### SHORTER SCHEDULE FOR BIG LEAGUES THIS YEAR

CHICAGO, Dec. 30.—National and American league schedule makers are ready for their work. The members of the joint schedule committee will meet in French Lick, Ind., on January 2 and arrange playing dates for 1914. Some of the work has already been accomplished. It was definitely decided that the baseball season of 1914 would start a few days later than last season.

April 14 was the date set for the opening next season, this being four days later than last season. Just when it will end is doubtful, but October 4 will likely see the end if the regulation 156 games are played.

Indications are that the White Sox will open at home and the Cubs will battle at Cincinnati. The Browns will be the opponents of the Sox.

### AVIATOR LEGAGNEUX RISES 20,295 FEET

SAINT RAFAEL, France, Dec. 29.—The world's altitude record for aeroplanes was broken by George Legagneux, the French aviator, who ascended from the aerodrome here 20,295 feet in his monoplane. The duration of his flight was one hour and thirty-five minutes. The former mark, set by Edmond Perreyon at Bue, France, on March 31, was 19,300 feet.

## STATE SAVES \$300,000 TO SOUTHLAND

LOS ANGELES, Dec. 30.—Rates of the Midway Gas company, operating from Kern to Los Angeles counties, giving Los Angeles a supply of natural gas, were ordered cut from 18 cents per 1000 cubic feet to 14 cents in a decision handed down by the state railroad commission.

Augustine W. Wright of the board of public utilities declares that figuring on a basis of the reduction from 18 to 14 cents, it is estimated that gas users in Los Angeles will save from \$400,000 to \$700,000 a year.

What the new gas rate means to consumers: Natural gas rate probably will be 54 cents per 1000 cubic feet.

Present artificial gas rate is 70 cents per 1000 cubic feet.

Reduction is 16 cents per 1000 cubic feet.

Gas consumers paid approximately \$3,250,000 for artificial gas at 70-cent rate.

At 54-cent rate saving will amount to approximately \$790,000 a year to gas users.

Councilmen advocate both artificial and natural gas rates.

Bills for mixture of artificial and natural gas, they say, should be made out according to the amount of artificial gas used in the mixture.

## ZERO WEATHER ADDS TO WINTER FAMINE

MONTREAL, Dec. 30.—Zero weather increased the suffering caused by the water famine here. Many big buildings, including two hospitals, put out their fires because they could get no water for their steam boilers. Many business offices were closed for lack of heat.

The cold hampered the distribution of water in tank carts, because the water froze before it reached the consumers.

In the hospitals, doctors and nurses went about their duties in fur coats, and extra blankets were heaped on the patients.

The city faces two dangers, fire and disease, owing to the lack of sanitary conveniences.

Several days must elapse before the sixty-foot break in the intake pipe from the St. Lawrence, which caused the trouble, can be repaired.

## EXPERIMENTAL ROAD TO BE BUILT

### TEST ROAD PLANNED TO DECIDE WHAT TYPE IS BEST

Commission Likes the Plan, Which is Most Practicable to Determine Which Kind of Substance Lasts Longest

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 30.—An experimental highway that will be an integral part of the state highway in Alameda county laid down between Oakland and San Jose;

An adjunct to the Panama-Pacific exposition, forming a striking exhibit of the highest development of highway engineering;

An attraction to automobilists from all over the world who will visit San Francisco in 1915;

A roadmaking exhibit that would act as a propelling argument in securing the International Roads Congress for San Francisco in 1915.

The \$18,000,000 authorized by the legislature for the purpose of constructing a state highway system in California, together with the great sums voted independently for road-making by various counties, has made possible the equipment of California with as fine a road system as exists anywhere in this country or abroad.

For the last year or more the state highway commission has been busily at work on the construction of a state highway. Contracts have been let for upwards of 400 miles of new road, and about a third of this work already has been completed and accepted.

In many places dissatisfaction has been expressed over the quality of the road constructed. The state highway commission endeavored, as far as possible, to give each community the type of road that seemed best adapted to its use.

Such rapid strides, however, have been made in the last few years in the science of roadmaking that there has arisen grave danger that the specifications laid down by the state highway commission did not meet modern requirements. The new rubber-tired traffic has imposed demands on road builders and on roads already established infinitely greater than the demands of the type of vehicle which the automobile is swiftly superseding. The experimental road was proposed as the most scientific and accurate method of determining exactly the type of road most durable, most economical in upkeep and best adapted to climate and traffic conditions in this state. Through such a road, and only through it, can it be determined what type of construction is safest and wisest to follow.

## MINUTE NAPS TO COST POLICEMAN HOUR EACH

DETROIT, Mich., Dec. 30.—Similar to the recorder's fine peddlers \$1 a quart for every quart their measures are short, Police Commissioner Gillespie has ordered patrolmen found to have slept on their beats to work one hour overtime for every minute they slept on duty.

One was told to serve sixty hours for an hour's sleep and another ten hours for ten minutes.

## 15 LIVES TOLL OF BASEBALL IN 1913

CHICAGO, Dec. 30.—Baseball cost 15 lives in America during the year 1913, according to figures compiled by J. R. Vickery. Fatalities were most numerous in Chicago, where three persons died of injuries received on the diamond.

All except one of the fifteen killed were hit by pitched balls or foul tips. The exception was J. Whitestone of New Orleans, who fractured his spine sliding into a base.

# NEW LIABILITY LAW IS EXPLAINED BY EXPERT

## GIVES EMPLOYER FOUR OPTIONS ON INSURANCE OF EMPLOYEES; CATASTROPHE WOULD MEAN RUIN TO PRIVATE FUND

State Has Furnished \$170,000 to Fund to Meet Unusual Losses and Expenses and Furthermore With a Board of Directors Who Serve Without Taxing the Fund—Salaries Paid From General Fund

LOS ANGELES, Dec. 30.—In order to familiarize the employers of Los Angeles with the Boynton compensation act, which goes into effect the first of the year, Col. Harris Weinstock, member of the industrial accident board, addressed a representative gathering of business men in Blanchard hall.

In the course of his remarks Weinstock explained that except where workers themselves are guilty of intoxication or willful misconduct, the employer, under the law, will be held liable for any injury sustained by his employees by accident arising out of and in the course of the employment; and for the death of such employees if the injury shall proximately cause death. The only exceptions relate to domestic service and agriculture.

He pointed out that the state gives the employer four options; he may insure with private stock companies; he may carry his own insurance; he may organize a mutual or inter-insurance company; or he may insure with the state against such liability.

"Own Insurance Hazardous" He said that the most hazardous, especially for an employer with moderate capital, is to carry his own accident insurance. A catastrophe might happen, causing the loss of the lives of several employees, and the bankruptcy of the employer. Banks and manufacturers deride a customer who does not insure himself against fire, he said, and are quite likely also to withhold credit from customers who do not insure themselves against accidents to employees.

Weinstock explained that there are numerous private stock companies in the field that are financially strong, and also that there are movements on foot to organize mutual and inter-insurance exchanges, enabling employers to insure each other.

Such associations have operated in other states, some with marked success, while some have proven failures.

An advantage in some of the proposed inter-insurance companies is that the policy holder will get back his share of any profits made over 30 per cent.

The disadvantage lies in the fact that the policy holder becomes a part-

ner in the losses. Each member would be liable for his regular annual premium, and an amount in addition equal to one full annual premium.

In the case of a mutual company, if a catastrophe should wipe out its reserve, every member would be liable to the extent of one full premium in addition to the regular premium payable for that year's coverage; also, a man's injured employees might not be fully covered by the insurance he carried.

It was then pointed out by Colonel Weinstock that no disadvantages attach to insuring with the state. Under the law the insurance carrier becomes liable for all costs and compensations to the injured, to the amount for which the employer is insured. Thus, if the employer carries an unlimited policy with a private stock company or with the state, no matter what loss may follow, the employer is absolutely free from liability.

The advantage of insuring with the state, he said, is that should the cost of operations be less than 30 per cent it is the intention of the board to have the policy holder reap the benefit, together with any surplus from other sources or stockholders.

This makes, he declared, of the state insurance fund practically a mutual or inter-insurance company, but with none of the disadvantages in the way of further liability.

## State Gives \$170,000

The state has dealt generously with the insurance fund, Weinstock explained, in that it has furnished it with \$170,000 to meet unusual losses and expenses, and, furthermore, with a board of directors, the industrial accident commission, who serve without taxing the fund, their salaries being paid out of the general fund.

The state insurance fund has made preparations to issue policies to employers on January 1, 1914, at no higher than the uniform standard rates likely to be adopted by standard companies.

An office has been opened at 817-820 Hollingsworth building, in charge of W. L. McConnell, an expert casualty underwriter.

## NEW FRUIT DISEASE PROVES A MYSTERY

PORTERVILLE, Dec. 30.—J. T. Barrett, one of the staff of the state experiment station at Whittier, has been in this district for the past few days, investigating the so-called "green spot" in the mature fruit, which is a mysterious malady and which thus far is a complete puzzle to orchardists.

The pathology of the disease is a matter of conjecture as yet. On the mature fruit there suddenly appears a circular patch of green, which varies in size and location and which injures the grade of the fruit.

The trouble was reported to A. G. Schultz, horticultural commissioner, who brought it to the attention of the state experts. Barrett has sent a number of samples to Southern California for further study and experiment.

## LINER BATTERED BY GALES AND WAVES

VANCOUVER, B. C., Dec. 30.—With the arrival here of the big Empress of Asia liner, come graphic stories of wireless messages received at sea by the Empress from the Canadian-Pacific liner Montegale, telling how the Montegale had to be hoisted to mid-Pacific, at the mercy of gales and giant seas. According to the Empress the Montegale encountered the storm in latitude 53, north and longitude 160, west, thence sweeping completely over the great ship. The Montegale wireless reported the barometer as down to 28.2, the lowest glass to be reported on the Pacific in years.

Rumors were current in all the coast cities, and as far east as Montreal that the Montegale had been sunk by the storm, and the entire country was alarmed, fearing a second Titanic disaster. The Empress, however, reports the Montegale, at last word, as proceeding slowly on her course to Hong Kong.

## 11 CENTS GROWS TO \$10,000 IN 10 YEARS

CALDWELL, Idaho, Dec. 29.—A unique competition has just come to a close here in connection with the recent Canyon county fair. A local firm of hardware dealers offered a valuable premium at the fair to the homesteader under the government project who could show the largest improvement on his filing from the smallest beginning.

Out of a large number of contestants the race has narrowed to three, John Jansen, Clark L. Roberts and S. M. Burt.

Mr. Jansen filed in 1903 with a total capital of 11 cents, one span of mules and a wagon. Today his place is conservatively valued at \$10,000.

## ORIENTAL TREES TO BLOOM AT S. F. FAIR

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 30.—The jungles of far countries are to be brought to San Francisco. Already tall cypress trees are budding on the Panama Pacific exposition site, waiting assignment to the stately allees, and with them will grow plants of India, Africa and the Philippines.

## \$43,000,000 SPENT ON HIGHWAY BUILDING

WASHINGTON, Dec. 30.—"There has been a steady movement for better roads during the past twenty years, and today about thirty-four states have highway commissions or some other state highway agency," says the secretary of agriculture, in his annual report to the president of the United States. "The total annual expenditure of the states for construction and maintenance of roads, which ten years ago amounted to but \$2,000,000, has grown to \$43,000,000 in 1912. The federal government should take the lead in investigational and experimental work, and there is need for a central agency which can furnish the best information on all problems of roadbuilding and maintenance."

"Recently congress made an appropriation of \$500,000 for improving post roads, expenditure to be contingent on the appropriation of double the amount of money by the state or local subdivision. If federal aid is to be further extended in highway development, legislation to that end should incorporate this co-operative principle. The federal government should deal with the state as the lowest unit, through an expert highway commissioner as its agency."

"The plan should provide for maintenance as well as construction. Preference should be given to the improvement of roads over which products from the farms can be taken to the nearest railway station."

## U. S. COURT UPHOLDS INSURANCE TAX LAW

WASHINGTON, Dec. 30.—The right of the state of Montana to impose a tax on premiums collected in that state by the New York Life Insurance company in transactions of life insurance business was affirmed by the supreme court today.

The Montana law provided that life insurance companies must pay a tax on the excess of premiums collected over losses and other expenditures in that state. The officials of Deer Lodge county attempted to enforce the law against the New York Life Insurance company, which resisted, bringing suits in the courts of Montana. These courts upheld the state's contention, and the company took an appeal to the supreme court.

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## WARSHIPS TO BE SCHOOLS

WASHINGTON, Dec. 30.—Secretary of the Navy Daniels has promulgated an order putting into effect his new educational system in the navy. Hereafter, for an hour and a quarter each afternoon, every enlisted man on the warships will be engaged in self-improvement under the watchful eyes of his commanding officer.

## Meat Prices Soar

WASHINGTON, Dec. 30.—Pressed meat increased 73.8 per cent in price from 1899 to 1909, notwithstanding that production kept pace with increase of population during that period, according to a report made today by the census bureau. The grand total weight of dressed and fresh meats in 1909, the report says, was 9,719,065,600 pounds, against 7,981,695,000 in 1899.

## Trust Asks Compromise

WASHINGTON, Dec. 30.—The American Bill Posting association made overtures to the government to settle out of court a suit begun under the Sherman law against the association. Attorneys representing the posting corporations saw Chief Justice Taft, who has charge of the case. The attorneys will start for Chicago at once to see Wilkerson.

## Bomb Injures Seven

COPENHAGEN, Dec. 29.—The Russian imperial railway train was wrecked by an explosion at Rostovk while waiting at the station to take on board the Russian dowager empress and Grand Duchess Xenia, who are on their way to this city to St. Petersburg. Seven persons were seriously injured. Only the delay of the dowager empress and the grand duchess reaching Rostovk saved them from death or serious injury.

## Production of Radium Substitute

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 30.—The production of Mesothorium, which has radio-active properties similar to but less powerful than those of radium, has been begun by the Welshbach company in various fields in the United States. While Mesothorium is rare, it can be produced to be one-millionth that of radium. Like radium, it has been found beneficial in the treatment of cancer, but particularly in affections of the ear.

## Rescue Volcano Victims

SYDNEY, Australia, Dec. 29.—Two ships left for Ambrim Island in search for survivors of the recent volcanic eruption believed to have killed five hundred natives. Incoming steamers bring terrible details. Witnesses of the disturbance say they expected to see the whole western side of the island disappear. With a terrific roar, followed by a rapid succession of artillery-like detonations, all the craters of the volcano entered into full activity. Great streams of lava were soon rushing down the slopes, cutting off the villagers from escape.

## MINNESOTA TO BUILD 10,000 MILES ROADS

ST. PAUL, Dec. 30.—Ten thousand miles of new roads will be built in Minnesota in ten years, if the plan outlined by the state engineer, George W. Cooley, is endorsed. The plans have been submitted to the counties affected, and a reply favorable to the projects is expected by the first of the year. The cost will be \$3,000,000 a year. The money is to be provided and apportioned under the new Dunn law. Counties with assessed valuation of from \$5,000,000 to \$10,000,000 will get 70 cents from the state for 20 cents expended. Counties with a valuation of from \$10,000,000 to \$15,000,000 will get 60 cents against 4 cents, and above that amount the counties will get 50 cents for every half dollar they expend.

# CONDENSATION OF CURRENT EVENTS

## GLEANED FROM NUMEROUS SECTIONS OF BOTH HEMISPHERES

Dispatches Picturing Developments From the Outside World Stripped of Unnecessary Details and Presented in Brief

## Rebellion in Ecuador

GUAYAQUIL, Ecuador, Dec. 29.—An attack of government troops on rebels at Esmeraldas is expected hourly. Reinforcements are en route to aid the army about the town.

## \$2,000,000 Fire

PORTSMOUTH, Eng., Dec. 29.—Fire of unknown origin damaged the navy yard here to the extent of \$2,000,000 and caused the death of two men who remained in the century old semaphore tower to summon help.

## Aeronauts Hang Up Record

PERM, Russia, Dec. 29.—Three German aeronauts landed here after traveling 1740 miles in eighty-seven hours from Bitterfeld, Prussia, establishing a new balloon distance record. They are under surveillance.

## New Method of Anesthesia

HARTFORD, Conn., Dec. 30.—Dr. W. H. Fitzgerald of New York, at a clinic for twenty-four physicians, demonstrated his new method of reflex anaesthesia. By mere pressure upon nerves in the neck, throat or nose he makes parts of the body insensible to pain.

## Saved by Muff

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—The Pekinese dog of Miss Grace Lloyd of California, an animal eight inches long, was kept moving from muff to muff of women passengers on the liner Amerika until the ship docked here, thus escaping the decree of death the captain had passed upon all dogs on his ship.

## Warships to Be Schools

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